MAR 1 3 2015

SENATE RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE AUDITOR TO CONDUCT A STUDY ON THE FEASIBILITY OF CREATING A STRUCTURAL LICENSING BOARD.

WHEREAS, installing and erecting structural steel is an incredibly demanding job that requires specialized skills to handle heavy steel; and

WHEREAS, installing and erecting structural steel is considered to be one of the most dangerous jobs in the United States, in part because workers must often install and erect steel structures hundreds of feet above the ground; and

WHEREAS, worker and public safety are put in jeopardy when a contractor employs unqualified workers to install and erect structural steel because unsatisfactory work could lead to a building collapse; and

WHEREAS, current contractor license requirements are insufficient to ensure the safety of workers who install and erect structural steel; and

WHEREAS, there are four license classifications under the Contractor License Board purview that critically involve the specialty expertise of a structural engineer, namely, C-38 post tensioning, C-41 reinforcing steel, C-48 structural steel, and C-56 welding; and

WHEREAS, it is unreasonable to expect the thirteen volunteers who comprise the Contractors License Board, none of whom currently possess the qualifications to erect structural steel, to be fully apprised of the very specific requirements of installing and erecting of structural steel; and

WHEREAS, these four license classifications should be transferred to the jurisdiction of a to be created structural license board to ensure that workers installing and erecting

steel structures possess the necessary experience and qualifications; and

WHEREAS, the State has a history of protecting the public's health, safety, and welfare through the creation of specialty license boards, namely, the Electrician and Plumbers License Board; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Twenty-eighth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2015, that the Auditor is requested to prepare a report that makes recommendations for the creation of a structural license board modeled after the Board of Electricians and Plumbers; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to consult with relevant stakeholders, including the Hawaii Iron Workers Stabilization Fund, the Hawaii Iron Workers Union Local 625, the Hawaii Building and Construction Trades Council, the Contractors License Board, the Electrician and Plumbers License Board, the Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii, and companies that hold licenses for C-38 post tensioning, C-41 reinforcing steel, C-48 structural steel, or C-56 welding; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to include the following in the report:

(1) A feasibility determination for the creation of a structural license board;

(2) Suggested amendments or modifications to the practice of issuing licenses for the:

(A) C-38 post tensioning;

(B) C-41 reinforcing steel;

(C) C-48 structural steel; and

(D) C-56 welding license classifications;

(3) A recommendation on licensure fees, including the possibility of increased amounts above any currently

paid by individuals for a C-38, C-41, C-48, or C-56 license, if any;

(4) A brief description of the process the Auditor used in making its findings and recommendations in the report;

 (5) The testimony of all stakeholders that participated in the process and justifications for why recommendations of stakeholders were included or excluded in the final recommendations;

(6) An estimate of the cost to create a structural license board; and

(7) Any proposed legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to transmit a draft report, including any recommendations for amendments to chapter 444, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and other chapters, if any, to the Legislative Reference Bureau no later than November 1, 2015, which in turn is requested to assist in drafting any proposed legislation; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Auditor is requested to submit a final report, including any recommendations for amendments to chapter 444, Hawaii Revised Statutes, and other chapters, if any, to the Legislature no later than twenty days prior to the convening of the Regular Session of 2016; and

 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Resolution be transmitted to the Governor, the Director of Commerce and Consumer Affairs, the Auditor, the Director of the Legislative Reference Bureau, the Chairperson of the Board of Electricians and Plumbers, the Chairperson of the Contractors License Board, the Director of the Hawaii Iron Workers Stabilization Fund, the Business Manager of the Iron Workers Union Local 625, the President of the Hawaii Building and

Construction Trades Council, and the President of the Structural Engineers Association of Hawaii.

OFFERED BY:

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